Project of M/s Mangalore Power Company. The Government of India has decided that further steps for issue of counter guarantee for this project would be taken once the decision of the Supreme Court on the SLP filed by Government of Karnataka agaisnt the Judgment of High Court of Karnataka in the Public Interest Writ Petition No. 10696/97 is available.

Of the above mentioned 8 projects, the Jegurupadu CCGT and the Godavari CCGT have been fully commissioned. The first phase of the Dabhol CCGT (740 MW) has been commissioned on 11.12.1998 but is yet to start commercial operation. According to information available, construction work on the Neyveli Thermal Power Project has also commenced recently. The remaining projects are yet to tie up finances from Indian financial institutions/foreign banks etc. prior to achieving financial closure and start of construction activities. In the case of Bhadrawati TTP, the major constraints for achieving financial closure are the resolution of the issue of location of captive coal mine in close proximity to the Ordinance Factory and the stay granted by the Mumbai High Court (Nagpur Branch) in regard to acquisition of land by Government of Maharashtra for the coal mining project. Government of India has been monitoring the progress of these projects and has been monitoring the progress of these projects and has intervened, wherever necessary, to expedite their commissioning.

Power Plant by M/s Broken Hill of Australia

1650. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a proposal from Australia for setting up a 2000 MW power plant by M/s. Broken Hill;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal;

(c) the proposed location of the plant;

(d) whether the vast coal resources of Andhra Pradesh can be exploited for this plant;

(e) whether any discussion has been held in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (d) M/s Broken Hill Proprietary Ltd. (BHP), having its headquarters at Melbourne, Australia, had submitted a proposal in November, 1994 through their subsidiary company M/s BHP Minerals, Hong Kong, for setting up a mega thermal power project (3000 MW) in the Ib Valley region of Orissa alongwith an integrated coal mine. The project was proposed to be developed on the MoU(negotiated) route. However, the mega power policy announced in November, 1995 stipulated that such multi-state mega power projects would be awarded only through a process of competitive bidding. In view of this, the proposal of BHP has not been considered. In the revised mega power policy announced in November, 1998, while certain project sites have been identified as mega projects, no site has been identified at Ib Valley.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Agreement with Foreign Companies for Fast Track Power Projects

1651. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of fast track power projects for which agreements were entered into with foreign companies;

(b) whether these projects are going to become operational on their stipulated dates; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the names of projects that are going to become operational as per schedule?

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) The Government of India in 1994 identified 8 projects for extending its counter-guarantee. Out of this, the 6 fast track projects for which counter-guarantee agreements were entered into with companies having foreign promoters are Jegurupadu Combined Cycle Gas Turbine